

# **Congresswoman Melissa Bean's High School and College Build-a-Bill**

For Educational Purposes Only

111th CONGRESS

1st Session

**H. R. 2525**

To establish an incentive program to encourage the construction of energy efficient homes and energy efficient commercial properties.

## **IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

July 4, 2009

Ms. SMITH on behalf of the CLASS OF 2009

introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

## **A BILL**

To establish an incentive program to encourage the construction of energy efficient homes and energy efficient commercial properties.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

### **SECTION 1 – SHORT TITLE**

This Act may be cited as the ‘Green Buildings Act of 2009’

### **SECTION 2 - FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.**

(A) Findings- The Congress finds as follows:

- (1) Global warming poses a significant threat to the national security, economy, public health and welfare, and environment of the United States, as well as of other nations.
- (2) According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the scientific community has agreed that global warming is a result of man-made carbon emissions, such as the burning of fossil fuels.
- (3) Electricity generation for homes and businesses is the single largest contributor to greenhouse gases in the U.S., according to the EPA's 2009 U.S. Greenhouse Gas Inventory Report.
- (4) Any reduction in electricity consumption in homes or businesses could therefore lead to a reduction in the need to burn fossil fuels that harm the planet.

(B) Purpose – It is the purpose of this bill to encourage reduction in greenhouse gases through incentives for the building of energy efficient homes.

### **SECTION 3 - PROVISIONS**

(A) Residential Homes

- (1) The government shall establish an incentive program to encourage the purchase of energy efficient homes. The incentive will go to the purchaser of a new home that qualifies under this bill.
- (2) For the purposes of this bill, “home” shall apply to any single-family home or duplex.
- (3) Energy efficiency shall be measured by the amount of electricity, gas, or heating oil required from a public utility as compared to a similar home.
- (4) Energy efficiency may include energy-saving technology, such as insulated windows, or energy-generating technology, such as solar panels.
- (5) Incentives provided to home buyers shall be as follows:
  - (a) For a 5% energy efficient home, \$500
  - (b) For a 10% energy efficient home, \$2,000
  - (c) For a 15% energy efficient home, \$5,000
  - (d) For a 20% energy efficient home, \$10,000.

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### **(B) Commercial Properties**

- (1) The government shall establish an incentive program to encourage the construction of energy efficient commercial properties. The incentive will go to the owner of the building upon completion of construction.
- (2) For the purposes of this bill, "commercial property" shall apply to a building constructed primarily for business use.
- (3) Energy efficiency shall be measured by the amount of electricity, gas, or heating oil required from a public utility as compared to a similar home.
- (4) Energy efficiency may include energy-saving technology, such as insulated windows, or energy-generating technology, such as solar panels.
- (5) Incentives provided to commercial builders shall be as follows:
- (6) For buildings of 10,000 square feet or less:
  - (a) For a 5% energy efficient building, \$500
  - (b) For a 10% energy efficient building, \$2,000
  - (c) For a 15% energy efficient building, \$5,000
  - (d) For a 20% energy efficient building, \$10,000.
- (7) For buildings of 10,001 square feet or more:
  - (a) For a 5% energy efficient building, \$1,000
  - (b) For a 10% energy efficient building, \$4,000
  - (c) For a 15% energy efficient building, \$10,000
  - (d) For a 20% energy efficient building, \$20,000